[Shri Dalbir Singhi

folio Management Scheme (PMS) and other schemes :—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Amount
1991	460.60
1992 (upto June 1992)	884.41

(The above are cumulative amounts which include roll over of the same amount, if any.)

(b) and (c) The bank's transactions relating to securities and PMS are under RBI's scrutiny.

Upgradation of Cities/Towns for purpose ot grant of HRA to Central Government Employees

2287. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :
SHRI J. S. RAJU :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) What is the policy being followed by Government for upgradation of cities/ towns for the purpose of grant of HRA to Central Government employees, based on population; and

(b) What is the recommendation *of* central pay commission on the subject as accepted by Government and whether there is any change in the policy from one pay commission to the other?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE) : (a) In accordance with the existing policy, cities/ towns are classified /upgraded for the purpose of grant of HRA to Central Government employees on the basis of the population, obtaining within their municipal area, as reflected in the final population figures of a decennial census. The existing classification and the requisite population marks are as follows :—

Classification of cities/towns	Population
'A' class	over 16 lakhs
'B-1' class	over 8 lakhs but not exceeding 16 lakhs.
'B-2' class	above 4 lakhs but not exceeding 8 lakhs
'C' class	above 50,000 but not exceeding 4 lakhs.

(b) The- 4th Central Pay Commission recommended that the existing system of payment of House Rent Allowance with reference to classification of cities based on population may continue. The earlier Central Pay Commissions had also recommended classification of cities on the basis of population.

Exchange of Cabin baggage to avoid Detection by Customs

2288. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased, to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that passengers en route to Bombay from Bangkok on Air India flight No. 339 on the 17th September, 1992 exchanged their cabin baggage with tether passengers who had boarded the flight in Delhi to avoid detection by custom officials as reported in the Mid Day, Bombay of the 21st October, 1992 under the caption 'Stranga Customs';

(b) if so. what are the details thereof?; and

(c) what action Government h»ve taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) No such flight AI-339 operated on the Bangkok-Delhi-Bombay route on 17-09-1992. Such a flight, however, did operate on 19-09-1992 but no such incident as narrated in the news item is reported to have taken place.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of reply to Part(a) above.

Tax arrear* from Industrial Houses

2289. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the names of the big industrial houses that have still not paid tax for the assessment year 1990-91; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) The